

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 RABAT 03716 101117Z

14

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ERDA-05 ACDA-07 OMB-01

/076 W

----- 094030

O P 101050Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9145

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

AMCONSUL TANGIER PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RABAT 3716

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCLR, MO

SUBJECT: NPW VISIT: PRESS GUIDANCE

1. EMBASSY HAS PREPARED FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
FOR USE ON IF-ASKED BASIS CONCERNING VISIT OF NPW'S USS  
NIMITZ AND USS SOUTH CAROLINA TO TANGIER SCHEDULED FOR  
JULY 17 TO 20. UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED BEFORE COB  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, WE PLAN TO USE THIS LANGUAGE AS NEEDED, AND  
SUGGEST WASHINGTON SPOKESMEN TAKE SAME LINE.

2. QUESTION: DOES THE USS NIMITZ OR USS SOUTH CAROLINA  
CARRY NUCLEAR WEAPONS:

ANSWER: IT IS LONGSTANDING U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY TO  
NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY THE PRECISE LOCATION OF NUCLEAR  
WEAPONS.

3. Q: ARE THERE ANY POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS IN THIS  
VISIT'S TIMING OR LOCATION?

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 RABAT 03716 101117Z

A: FOR MANY YEARS, THE U.S. NAVY HAS BEEN MAKING ROUTINE COURTESY VISITS TO MOROCCAN PORTS. AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED, THE VISIT OF THE USS NIMITZ AND USS SOUTH CAROLINA SHOULD BE VIEWED IN THAT CONTEXT.

4. Q: IS THIS THE FIRST TIME THE US NAVY HAS SENT A NUCLEAR POWERED SHIP ON A VISIT TO A MOROCCAN PORT?

A: NO. THE USS SEA DEVIL, A NUCLEAR POWERED SUB-MARINE VISITED SAFI FROM 20 TO 23 MARCH 1976.

5. Q: WHY ARE TWO SHIPS OF SUCH SIZE VISITING TANGIER AT THE SAME TIME?

A: IT IS COMMON FOR MILITARY SHIPS OF ALL NATIONS TO SAIL AND VISIT PORTS IN COMPANY. THIS VISIT IS SUCH A CASE AND NO FURTHER SIGNIFICANCE SHOULD BE GIVEN THE SIZE OF THE VISIT.

6. Q: IS EITHER OF THESE SHIPS ARMED WITH MISSILES?

A: BOTH VESSELS ARE MISSILE EQUIPPED FOR ANTI-AIRCRAFT DEFENSE.

7. Q: WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF TWO NUCLEAR POWERED SHIPS VISITING AT THE SAME TIME?

A: NO SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO THIS. NUCLEAR POWER IS SIMPLY THE LATEST STEP IN THE EVOLUTION OF SHIP PROPULSION.  
ANDERSON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976RABAT03716  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760266-1164  
**From:** RABAT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760771/aaaackcb.tel  
**Line Count:** 92  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION PM  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 NOV 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10 NOV 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <07 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NPW VISIT: PRESS GUIDANCE  
**TAGS:** OCLR, MO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006